

Message Text

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CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05
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EUR/CAN:JROUSE

L/EB:SEBENSON

TREASURY:WBARREDA

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT, CA

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR MFA CONSULTATIONS WITH GOC ON TEXTILE

--- RESTRAINTS

GENEVA FOR PHELAN

1. ON DECEMBER 23, 1976 DEPARTMENT DELIVERED NOTE TO
CANADIAN EMBASSY REQUESTING CONSULTATIONS PURSUANT TO
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ARTICLE 9 OF MULTIFIBER ARRANGEMENT (MFA); STATED PURPOSE
OF CONSULTATIONS IS TO REMEDY SITUATION CAUSED BY CANADIAN
NOV 29 IMPOSITION OF IMPORT RESTRAINTS ON MANY CLOTHING
ITEMS. CONSULTATIONS REQUESTED UNDER MFA SHOULD, WE
BELIEVE, BE HELD SEPARATELY FROM (BUT POSSIBLY PARALLEL TO)
ANY CONSULTATIONS HELD UNDER GATT ARTICLE XIX. TEXT OF

NOTE SET OUT BELOW.

2. WE WOULD APPRECIATE VIEWS OF US TSB REP ON APPROACH WHICH SHOULD BE USED IN MFA CONSULTATIONS WITH CANADIANS. BECAUSE CANADIANS MAY WELL NOT BE WILLING TO CONSULT UNDER MFA, THESE VIEWS SHOULD ALSO COVER CONTACTS WITH CANADIANS PRIOR TO ANY SUBSTANTIVE MEETINGS. EMBASSY'S VIEWS ON THIS WOULD ALSO BE WELCOME.

3. EMBASSY OTTAWA MAY, OF COURSE, INFORM GOC OF DELIVERY OF NOTE IN WASHINGTON.

4. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF NOTE: QUOTE

THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE REFERS THE EMBASSY OF CANADA TO THE ARRANGEMENT REGARDING INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN TEXTILES DONE AT GENEVA ON DECEMBER 20, 1973 (THE "MFA"), AND TO THE MEASURES TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA, EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 29, 1976, LIMITING IMPORTS OF CERTAIN CLOTHING AND APPAREL ITEMS INTO CANADA DURING THE PERIOD BEGINNING ON NOVEMBER 29, 1976, TO THE LEVELS OF IMPORTS OF SUCH ITEMS INTO CANADA DURING 1975 AND LIMITING IMPORTS INTO CANADA OF OUTERWEAR GARMENTS DURING 1977 TO A GLOBAL TOTAL OF 2.3 MILLION UNITS.

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES NOTES THAT BOTH CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES ARE PARTY TO THE MFA. PARAGRAPHS 1 AND 2 OF ARTICLE 9 OF THE MFA STATE:

"1. IN VIEW OF THE SAFEGUARDS PROVIDED FOR IN THIS ARRANGEMENT THE PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES SHALL, AS FAR AS POSSIBLE, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REFRAIN FROM TAKING ADDITIONAL TRADE MEASURES WHICH MAY HAVE THE EFFECT OF NULLIFYING THE OBJECTIVES OF THIS ARRANGEMENT.

"2. IF A PARTICIPATING COUNTRY FINDS THAT ITS INTERESTS ARE BEING SERIOUSLY Affected BY ANY SUCH MEASURES TAKEN BY ANOTHER PARTICIPATING COUNTRY, THAT COUNTRY MAY REQUEST THE COUNTRY APPLYING SUCH MEASURE TO CONSULT WITH A VIEW TO REMEDYING THE SITUATION."

SUB;TANTIAL U.S. EXPORTS TO CANADA ARE COVERED BY THE MEASURES TAKEN BY CANADA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES FINDS ITS INTERESTS TO BE SERIOUSLY Affected PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 9 OF THE MFA, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES THEREFORE REQUESTS CONSULTATIONS WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA AS SOON AS POSSIBLE WITH A VIEW TO REMEDYING THIS SITUATION WHICH HAS ARisen IN TEXTILE TRADE BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. END QUOTE.

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